Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 107753

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R 082155Z MAY 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO USMISSION GENEVA INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECE, SENV

SUBJECT: ECE - HABITAT CONFERENCE

REF: GENEVA 3259

- 1. RE PARA 5 REFTEL, AS INDICATED DEPTEL 104855 WE CONSIDER FUNDAMENTAL PURPOSE OF REGIONAL CONSULTATION IS TO LAY GROUNDWORK FOR OBTAINING AGREEMENT ON AGENDA FOR HABITAT CONFERENCE AT NEXT PREP COM (SCHEDULED FOR END OF AUGUST). CONSULTATION WOULD ALSO EXPOSE THOSE COUNTRIES NOT MEMBERS OF PREP COM TO CONFERENCE PREPARATORY PROCESS AND HOPEFULLY STIMULATE THEIR INTEREST IN CONFERENCE.
- 2. THERE HAS BEEN PROTRACTED AND DIFFICULT EFFORT TO DEFINE ISSUES ON WHICH CONFERENCE WILL CONCENTRATE. PROBLEM HAS BEEN THAT THERE ARE NO EASILY DISCERNIBLE LIMITS TO LEGITIMATE CONCERNS WHICH CAN BE COMPREHENDED UNDER THE TERM QUOTE HUMAN SETTLEMENTS. END QUOTE AUGUST PREP COM MEETING IS SHORT, AND PUTS A PREMIUM ON ARRIVING THERE WITH REAL PROSPECTS OF ARRIVING AT CONSENSUS ON AGENDA QUICKLY. WE WOULD HOPE ECE CONSULTATION WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THAT PROSPECT.

UNCLASSIFIED UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 107753

- 3. CONSEQUENTLY, WE SEE NO NEED FOR ECE DOCUMENTATION. MOST USEFUL DOCUMENT IS HABITAT JANUARY 1975 PREP COM REPORT WHICH INCLUDES AN ANNEX ENTITLED QUOTE CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK. END QUOTE WE BELIEVE CONSULTATION OUGHT TO CONCENTRATE ON THAT PAPER.
- 4. WE WOULD ALSO HOPE THAT CONFERENCE DEPUTY SYG WOULD, INTER ALIA, REPORT ON OUTCOMES OF REGIONAL MEETINGS IN TEHRAN AND CAIRO WHICH WILL HAVE PRECEDED GENEVA CONSULTATION.
- 5. SO FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED THESE TWO ITEMS DEPUTY SYG'S PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK PAPER WOULD SUFFICE AS AGENDA FOR ECE CONSULTATION. WOULD APPRECIATE MISSION'S MAKING THESE POINTS TO SECRETARIAT. KISSINGER

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